

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/695,140

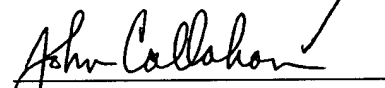
REMARKS

Claims 12-18 are pending in the present application. As will be discussed below, independent Claims 12, 13 and 16 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Accordingly, entry of the present Amendment is requested.

Independent Claims 12, 13 and 16 have been amended to recite a base resin comprising a mixture of (A1) and (A2).

Examination of the application on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: December. 20, 2002

APPENDIX
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

12. A one-piece golf ball made from a golf ball material comprising a heated mixture having a melt index of at least 1.0 dg/min which is composed of:

(A) 100 parts by weight of a base resin comprising ~~one of~~ a mixture of

(A1) an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, or both of an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid random copolymer and an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, and

(A2) a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, or both of a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid random copolymer and a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer;

(B) 5 to 80 parts by weight of a fatty acid or fatty acid derivative having a molecular weight of at least 280; and

(C) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of a basic inorganic metal compound capable of neutralizing acidic groups in components A and B.

13. A solid golf ball comprising a solid core of at least one layer and a cover of at least one layer enclosing the solid core, wherein at least one layer of the solid core or the cover is

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/695,140

made of a golf ball material comprising a heated mixture having a melt index of at least 1.0 dg/min which is composed of:

(A) 100 parts by weight of a base resin comprising ~~one of~~ a mixture of

(A1) an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, or both of an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid random copolymer and an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, and

(A2) a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, or both of a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid random copolymer and a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer;

(B) 5 to 80 parts by weight of a fatty acid or fatty acid derivative having a molecular weight of at least 280; and

(C) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of a basic inorganic metal compound capable of neutralizing acidic groups in components A and B.

16. A thread-wound golf ball comprising:

a thread-wound core composed of a solid center of at least one layer or a liquid center made of a liquid-filled center envelope, about which solid or liquid center has been wound a rubber thread, and

a cover of at least one layer which encloses the thread-wound core;

wherein the solid center or at least one layer of the cover is made of a golf ball material comprising a heated mixture having a melt index of at least 1.0 dg/min which is composed of:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/695,140

- (A) 100 parts by weight of a base resin comprising ~~one of~~ a mixture of
- (A1) an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, or both of an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid random copolymer and an olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, and
- (A2) a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer, or both of a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid random copolymer and a metal ion-neutralized olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylate random copolymer;
- (B) 5 to 80 parts by weight of a fatty acid or fatty acid derivative having a molecular weight of at least 280; and
- (C) 0.1 to 10 parts by weight of a basic inorganic metal compound capable of neutralizing acidic groups in components A and B.